time guarantee fee from 2.5% to 1.5%. This level of fee is already applicable to the following category of borrowers in respect of credit facility sanctioned on or after October 01, 2005 and covered under the Scheme:

* All loans upto Rs. 2.00 lakh;
* All eligible women Entrepreneurs;
* All eligible borrowers located in the North Eastern Region (including Sikkim) and Jammu & Kashmir;"

CGTSI is regularly persuading the eligible banks to join the scheme.

Shortage of trolleys at IGI Airport, Delhi

*225. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that luggage trolleys at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi are in a bad and dilapidated state;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the IGI Airport is one of the major Airports in the country and receives number of foreigners/visitors and the state of luggage trolleys reflects the country's image/dignity when a foreigner lands at Airport itself; and

(c) if so, whether Government have taken any measures to provide trolleys in good condition at IGI Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The luggage trolleys at Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport are in good condition. These trolleys are regularly maintained and damaged/ broken trolleys are substituted with new trolleys. Airports Authority of India (AAI) imported 1800 state-of-the-art trolleys from Germany in year 2003-2004 for IGI Airport. Recently, AAI has procured 1800 new trolleys and deployed these at airport to meet growing demand of passengers. Thus total of 3600 trolleys have been added in last two years.

Coordination with States to Join VAT Regime

*226. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six more States have expressed their willingness to switch over to the Value Added Tax (VAT) regime in the next few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the time-frame finalized, if any, therefor;

(c) the States which have not yet decided to implement the VAT regime; and

(d) the steps being taken to co-ordinate with those States to join the VAT?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) 4 States, namely, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh, have decided to implement VAT *w.e.f.* 01 April 2006. The Government of Rajasthan have indicated their willingness to implement VAT if CST is either abolished or a clear road-map for its phasing out is given by the Government of India and the losses on this account are fully compensated.

(c) 3 States/UTs, namely, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry have not yet decided to implement VAT.

(d) Under Entry 54 of List II (State List) of the Constitution of India, States Sales Tax (as also State VAT, which has replaced the State Sales Tax) is a State subject. It is entirely for the States concerned to take a decision about implementation of VAT. The Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers co-ordinates work in this regard. The role of the Central Government is confined to facilitating the process through technical and financial assistance.

Co-operation with Saudi Arabia in energy sector

*227. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the visit of the Saudi Arabia King to India they have shown interest in investing in India's energy sector and also welcomed India's investment in gas fields in Saudi Arabia; and

(b) if so, the response of Government as the country is facing severe crisis in the energy sector?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) During the state visit of the King of Saudi Arabia to India in January, 2006, the Delhi Declaration was signed by the Prime Minister of India and the Saudi Monarch on 27th January, 2006. The Declaration sets out a common vision for regional and bilateral cooperation and an agenda for cooperation in specific areas.